DC

54

13+ TEEN

HARLEY QUINN

KALAN
OLIVARES
LOUISE

ALL IN

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE EVIL

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Written by **AL EWING** • Art by **GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI**

VILLAINS UNITED IN THE NEXT ERA OF THE ABSOLUTE UNIVERSE

OCTOBER

I SWEAR TO YOU, **MRS. GRIMALDI,** I SHALL NOT REST UNTIL WE'VE LOCATED HARLEY-- OR AT LEAST ENOUGH OF HER **BODY** TO PROPERLY IDENTIFY HER.

HAVE YOU KILLED ME?

POLICE DEPARTMENT GOTHAM 653902

IF SO, CALL HELGA GRIMALDI

555-CHICKEN

FRIENDS WITH DETRIMENTS

PART 1: THE ZOO STORY

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HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY PAUL DINI & BRUCE TIMM

IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS, ***CHICKEN FINGERS.*** EITHER SHE'S SKIPPED TOWN OR SHE'S LYIN' ON THE BOTTOM OF GOTHAM HARBOR. WE AIN'T GONNA FIND HER.

AND YET, I NOTICE YOU HAVEN'T STOPPED PUTTING UP FLYERS.

EH, I'M JUST LOOKIN' TO GET HER BACK RENT.

GRANDMA, YOU DON'T THINK HARLEY RAN AWAY 'CAUSE OF ***ME,*** DO YA? 'CAUSE I MADE HER REGRET NOT GOIN' OUT WITH ME?

HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HA HA HK--! --COUGH COUGH COUGH!

THANKS, ***RICHIE,*** I NEEDED THAT.

NOW LET'S MOVE IT!

WE STILL GOT HALF OF ***THROATCUTTER HILL*** TO COVER!

WHERE ARE YOU HIDING, QUINN?

HOW DARE YOU DISAPPEAR AFTER COMMITTING THE GREATEST CRIME OF ALL...

...STEALING THE HEART OF I, YOUR ARCHNEMESIS, ***ALTHEA KLANG!***

BUILDING PEOPLE LOOK ANGRY, BOSS.

UGH. ***AMYGDALA,*** MANAGING BUILDINGS WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER IF YOU DIDN'T NEED TO PUT ***PEOPLE*** IN THEM.

WHAT ARE THEY GRIPING ABOUT NOW?

THEY SAY THERE'S TOO MANY VILLAINS IN THE SAUNA. THEY SAY THE SEPTIC LINE'S NOT FIXED YET. THEY SAY ALTHEA KLANG'S TOO OBSESSED WITH THE MISSING CLOWN LADY...

YOU WANT AMYGDALA TO CRUSH THEM?

THEY THINK I'M OBSESSED? I'M HARDLY--

WAIT! YOU DIDN'T CRUSH HARLEY, DID YOU?!

NO! NO, AMYGDALA ***SWEARS,*** BOSS!

YOU SAID NOT TO, AND I DIDN'T WANT HER TO TICKLE ME AGAIN!

THEN WHERE ARE YOU, HARLEY QUINN?!

WHERE THE @#%! ARE YOU, HARLEY QUINN?

NOT THE *BEST* BED I'VE WOKEN UP IN WITH NO MEMORY OF HOW I GOT THERE.

NOT THE WORST, EITHER.

USE THE EVIDENCE OF YOUR SENSES, HARLEY. BATMAN FIGURES THIS KIND OF THING OUT ALL THE TIME.

CAN'T YOU JUST TELL ME, *QUINNTELLECT*? I MEAN, YOU *ARE* MY BRAIN.

I SUPPOSE I COULD ASSIST YOU. FROM THE MOVEMENT BENEATH US, WE MUST BE IN A *VEHICLE*. AND I NOTICE THE UNMISTAKABLE SCENT OF LAVENDER *BODYWASH*...

JUST THE CLUE I NEEDED TO CRACK THE CASE. NOW I KNOW WHOEVER KIDNAPPED ME ENJOYS A RELAXING TUB SOAK!

HOWSABOUT I TRY THE LIFE HACK OF "LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW"?

AAH! WE'RE BEHIND SOME KIND OF BLINDING LASER SHIELD!

I THINK THAT'S JUST NON-GOTHAM-SMOGGED SUNSHINE, HARLEY.

OKAY, SO WE'RE ON A ROAD. I DEDUCE WE'RE IN A VEHICLE OF SOME KIND...

YES, I BELIEVE WE'D ALREADY ESTABLISHED THAT MUCH.

BY THE WAY, YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHETHER YOU'LL GO OUT WITH ALTHEA.*

YOU'RE SERIOUSLY ASKING ME THAT ***NOW?***

*Althea asked Harley out at the end of Harley Quinn #52! --Jimbo & Ari

I'M NOT SURE YOU'LL COME UP WITH A WAY TO ESCAPE FROM THIS PREDICAMENT, AND I'D RATHER NOT DIE IN A STATE OF UNCERTAINTY.

THANKS FOR THE SHOW OF CONFIDENCE, WRINKLES.

WE SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE AS LONG AS I CAN FIND SOME KIND OF WEAPO--

HELLOOOO, GUNS!

AND NOW LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE BIG, BLOODTHIRSTY MANIAC IN THE SKY.

BAM!

HANDS IN THE AIR, SICKOS! YOU MESSED WITH THE WRONG MELANIN-DEFICIENT PSYCHO-BABE!

♪CLOSER I AM TO♪ ♪FIIIINE!

HI HARLEY! HEY MAYFLY, HARLEY'S UP!

AW, SUCK. YOU GUYS.

I SHOULDA JUST SHOT YOU BOTH BEFORE GUNBUNNY'S CRUNCHY ALTERNA-FOLK SYNCED OUR CYCLES.

WELL, YOU DIDN'T, SO STOP WAVIN' THAT GUN AROUND MY BEST FRIEND'S HEAD, OR THEY'RE GONNA START CALLING YOU HOLE-Y QUINN.

I'M DOIN' IT. BUT ONLY 'CAUSE YOUR WORDPLAY'S SO PAINFUL IT'S BANNED BY THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

I WENT TO ♪THE SOMETHING! AND THEN TO ANOTHER THING!♪

YOU WANNA KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE?

NO.

'CAUSE WE ***WERE*** JUST GONNA KILL YOU FOR THE STREET CRED. MAKE A NAME FOR THE GUNBUDDIES, YOU KNOW? BUT THEN WE GOT A ***BUYER!***

A WHAT?

WE POSTED ON ***THUGSLIST,*** THE MERC MESSAGE BOARD, THAT WE WERE IN POSSESSION OF A WOUNDED HARLEY QUINN, AND A COLLECTOR REACHED OUT TO US.

A... ***COLLECTOR?***

HE'S BASED ON THE WEST COAST. SO WE FIGURED AS LONG AS WE HAD TO DELIVER YOU, WHY NOT MAKE IT A--

GUNBUDDIES ROAD TRIP!

THA-THUMP!

OOPS, POTHOLE!

YOU WANNA MAYBE AVOID THE POTHOLES WHEN YOUR SADISTIC, STICK-UP-HER-BUTT MONSTER OF A GAL PAL ***HAS A GUN TO MY HEAD?!***

DON'T YOU TALK ABOUT MY FRIEND THAT WAY!

LOOK, IT'S JUST THE THREE OF US. YOU CAN DROP THE "BUDDIES" SHTICK.

IT'S NOT ***SHTICK,*** QUINN. GUNBUNNY AND I ARE ***GENUINE*** FRIENDS WHO ***GENUINELY*** APPRECIATE EVERY MOMENT WE GET TO SPEND TOGETHER.

SHE'S MADE MY LIFE A NONSTOP, VIOLENCE-FILLED SLEEPOVER PARTY.

STRAIGHT TALK, HARLEY? NOBODY GETS INTO THIS LINE OF WORK BECAUSE THEY'RE BRIMMING WITH EMOTIONAL STABILITY.

WE'RE SEARCHING FOR SELF-ACCEPTANCE, CONFIDENCE, A FEELING OF CONTROL...AND WE LOOK FOR IT DOWN THE BARREL OF A GUN.

BUT ***TAKING*** LIVES ISN'T ENOUGH TO ***MAKE*** A LIFE. YOU NEED TO LET PEOPLE IN. LET THEM FIND THE GOOD IN YOU.

I LOVE MY FRIEND 'CAUSE SHE HELPS ME BETTER LOVE ***MYSELF.***

SO IF YOU'RE SO FULFILLED, WHY ARE YOU STILL IN THIS BIZ?

BECAUSE IT'S ***FUN!***

OKAY, I'LL ADMIT IT. WHAT YOU SAID HIT HOME.

MAKES ME FEEL KIND OF BAD ABOUT WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NEXT.

WHY? WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT?

THA-THUMP!

POTHOLE!

SNOT HOLE!

OW! MY NOSE!

HA! FRIENDSHIP DON'T HAVE NOTHIN' ON A CLOWN WHO DOESN'T THINK AHEAD!

DON'T GIVE MY FRIEND A NOSEBLEED! SHE STRUGGLES WITH CLOTTING!

AW, THAT'S SWEET OF YOU TO OFFER UP YOUR FACE FOR SOME PUNCHIN' INSTEAD.

BLAM!

POW!

TRUE FRIENDSHIP!

YOU ASSASSIN AMIGAS HAVE INSPIRED ME. IF ONLY THERE WAS SOME WAY I COULD CELEBRATE YOUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THROUGH YOU-TARGETED VIOLENCE.

OH WAIT, HOW ABOUT--

KLUNK!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T DO THIS ONE YET! IT'S A CLASSIC MOVE!

WOHK!

SO'S THAT ONE...

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH FRIENDS! I BROUGHT TWO OF 'EM!

WHAP!

POW!

OW! FISTS DON'T COUNT AS FRIENDS!

SHOOT HER, MAYFLY! FORTY-DEGREE ANGLE! SLIGHT BREEZE FROM THE AIR CONDITIONING!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

YOU'LL LIKE IT ENOUGH TO PUT A RING ON IT!

Welcome to COAST CITY

HA! YOU MISSED!

YOU MISSED AGAIN!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

NO SHE DIDN'T, SHE HIT THE STEERING COLUMN!

SMASH!

MEANWHILE IN GOTHAM CITY...

WHAT THE *HELL* WERE THOSE IDIOTS THINKING, ABDUCTING THE WOMAN I'VE VOWED TO RAVISH?!

I SWEAR ON LE CORBUSIER'S GRAVE, THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS!

WE CAME HERE TO SHARE OUR COMPLAINTS, NOT TO WATCH YOU LOOK AT YOUR PHONE!

IT'S NOT MY FAULT THE ALGORITHM HELD THESE PHOTOS BACK FROM ME, THEN SENT ME A FISTFUL OF NOTIFICATIONS ALL AT ONCE!

A sterling example of the folly of connection. The distraction and the complication of human interrelationship.

I DON'T RECOGNIZE YOU FROM THE RESIDENT FILES. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

What are **ANY** of us doing anywhere?

We are struggling in the adhesive web the world casts around us. Thrashing against the **CONSPIRACY** that binds all to all.

You may call me **THE DECONSPIRATOR.** There is a malicious intelligence at work here, and I aim to overthrow it.

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE REFERRING TO ME?

In a sense, yes. And those like you. Those who construct elaborate conspiracies to tyrannize those who should be free to disassociate.

You have built a **COLLUSION** of habitation. A residential hive that demands collaboration and connivance between all who shelter here.

Rules and systems that force human beings to become human **BELONGINGS.**

You have made of these people a condominium cabal that offends the individual nature of life.

THAT'S ENOUGH, RAVAGER, REMOVE THIS IRRITANT.

YOU HEARD MY EMPLOYER. START WALKING OR START BLEEDING.

Ah, the labor relationship. Another odious shackle, binding you to her, and her to you. Limiting each of your actions, dictating your feelings.

How can you even know what you **WANT** from life if you must live within the limits she sets for you?

ACTUALLY...NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I'VE CERTAINLY FELT HELD BACK EVER SINCE I TOOK THIS JOB.

A job! A co-op! A **COMMUNITY!** So many illicit entanglements! So many unnatural juntas! Is this any way to live?

YEAH, HOW'S SHARING A BUILDING DIFFERENT THAN BEING IN SOME KIND OF CRIMINAL PLOT?

I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND, I HAVE A COCONSPIRATOR IN A SCHEME TO PRETEND WE'RE HAPPY!

WHEN I NOD TO SOMEONE IN THE ELEVATOR, I'M COMPLICIT IN THE CORRUPTION OF BIG ETIQUETTE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY RESIDENTS?!

Setting them **FREE.**

STOP FORCING ME TO BE PART OF YOUR LIFESTYLE INTRIGUE!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!
I REFUSE TO BE IMPLICATED IN YOUR SOCIETY!
SIC SEMPER THE TYRANNY OF HUMAN CIVILIZATION!
STAY BACK FROM THE BOSS!
THEY'VE GONE MAD! THEY'VE ALL GONE MAD!

UNNHH... CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT MADE MY HEAD HURT SO MUCH, BUT IT BETTER HAVE BEEN FUN.

SOME KIND OF ELEPHANT-PIG! I MUST HAVE A CONCUSSION!

I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT IT'S--

SHHH, SHUT UP! I CAN BATMAN-WORLD'S-GREATEST-DETECTIVE THIS.

FROM ITS COLORATION, I CAN TELL IT'S A ***MALAYAN TAPIR,*** WHICH IS FOUND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN ITS NATIVE REGION, STRETCHING FROM THE MALAY PENINSULA TO SUMATRA.

WOW! I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE SO KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT ASIAN MAMMALS!

YEAH, I'M PRETTY SMART.

PLUS I HAD SOME HELP FROM THAT INFORMATION PLAQUE.

MALAYAN TAPIR

Southeast Asia (Malay Peninsula to Sumatra)

NOW MY DETECTIVE BRAIN TELLS ME WE'RE IN A ZOO.

FREEZE, QUINN!

YOU WRECKED OUR RV, BUT YOU WON'T WRECK OUR TRIP!

THE BUYER WANTS HER ALIVE, SO AIM LOW! TAKE OUT HER LEGS!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

RUN, ELEPHANT-PIG! RUN!

SMASSH!

REEE! REEE!

I KNOW, TRUNKY, YOU WERE ONLY TWO DAYS AWAY FROM RETIREMENT.

BUT NOW YOU'RE FREE, ELEPHANT-PIG! YOU'RE FREE!

AND I'M TAKIN' THE CREDIT FOR IT!

OUTTA THE WAY, PEOPLE! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! C-LIST SUPER-VILLAINS ON THE LOOSE!

STOP CALLING US C-LISTERS! WE NEARLY KILLED YOU TWICE!

DON'T LET HER GET TO YOU, MAYFLY. I KNOW HOW GREAT YOU REALLY ARE.

TRUNKY, MAYBE THIS GOD-AWFUL NONSTOP WEST COAST SUNSHINE HAS BAKED MY BRAIN...

...BUT EVEN AS THESE CHICKS ARE TRYIN' TO SHOOT US--I CAN'T HELP BEIN' A LITTLE ENVIOUS.

WHIZZZ WHIZZZ WHIZZZ

HEY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA AIM AT MY LEGS!

THE THING IS, I GOT PEOPLE I LIKE. BUT HOW COME I FEEL LIKE I DON'T GOT PEOPLE I CAN ***RELY*** ON? REAL FRIENDS?

I'M RIGHT HERE.

AND HOW MUCH HELP WOULD YOU BE IF I HADDA MOVE A BIG PIECE OF FURNITURE?

EVEN IVY, MY EVERGREEN TRUE-LOVIN' SOULMATE. SHE'D DO ANYTHIN' FOR ME...WHEN SHE'S AROUND. BUT THAT AIN'T TOO OFTEN.

AM I THE ONLY GAL ON THE PLANET WHO AIN'T GOT A BEST FRIEND?

--AND THAT'S WHY AS PART OF OUR COAST CITY VACATION, BADDIE-BUSTING BESTIES ***FIRE AND ICE*** ARE SO EXCITED TO CUT THE RIBBON ON THIS BRAND-NEW--

HARLEY QUINN?!

JEEZ LOUISE, CASE IN POINT...

NO NEED TO CUT A RIBBON ON A BRAND-NEW ME. SAME OLD ME WAS JUST HEADING OUT.

NOT SO FAST! OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE HERE FOR SOME KIND OF WEIRD STOLEN-ANIMAL-THEMED SCHEME.

EXACTLY THE KIND OF DEPRAVED, GOTHAM-STYLE CRIME WE'VE SWORN TO KEEP OUT OF AMERICA'S ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS!

YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG! I'M NOT STEALIN' ANY ANIMALS!

WE CAN LITERALLY SEE THAT YOU'RE STEALING THE ZOO'S MALAYAN TAPIR.

OKAY, IMPRESSED YOU DIDN'T NEED THE INFORMATION PLAQUE. BUT I'M NOT HERE TO PULL OFF A SCHEME!

ALL RIGHT, LADIES, HANDS IN THE AIR AND DROP OUR CLOWN!

THE GUNBUDDIES AREN'T LETTING TWO SUPER-HAS-BEENS GET IN THE WAY OF OUR SCHEME!

THEY'RE NOT WITH ME, I SWEAR.

HAS-BEENS?! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU ARE!

YOU'RE GOING TO WISH YOU NEVER SET FOOT IN THE COAST CITY ZOO!

FIRE, STAY CALM! THERE ARE CHILDREN HERE!

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SUPPOSED TO BE?!

LIKE A KILLER AEROBICS INSTRUCTOR?!

I'M MAYFLY, A WORLD-CLASS ASSASSIN! THOUGH I BRIEFLY TAUGHT ZUMBA!

NOBODY SHOOTS FIRE AT MY BEST FRIEND!

NOBODY SHOOTS BULLETS AT MY BEST FRIEND!

OY, WITH ALL THE FRIENDSHIP...

ELEPHANT-PIG, MY BIG FRIEND (SEE, I HAVE ONE TOO), I THINK THIS IS OUR CUE TO SKEDADDLE.

NO SKEDADDLING TODAY, QUINN!

AW MAN! THIS SUCKS EVEN WORSE THAN HOW MUCH IT SUCKED BEFORE.

AND THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU TWO, AS WELL.

I'M STILL CONSIDERING THIS A VICTORY FOR FRIENDSHIP! JUST NOT *OUR* FRIENDSHIP.

PLEASE REMAIN CALM AND ENJOY THE ZOO, EVERYONE! FIRE AND ICE HAVE EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL!

YOU'RE LUCKY MY FRIEND IS HERE, OR YOU'D BE *ROAST* BUNNY.

WATCH YOUR MOUTH WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO MY FRIEND!

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE, LITTLE BUDDY. GO! BE FREE!

"'CAUSE IF I KNOW MY LIFE, THINGS CAN ALWAYS GET A WHOLE LOT WORSE."

PATIENCE, TRIGGER FINGERS. YOUR NEXT QUARRY IS ON ITS WAY.

A GREAT DAY OF HUNTING LIES AHEAD OF US.

MASTER BLOMQUIST, I'M SORRY TO REPORT THAT YOUR DAUGHTER AND HER PARTNER ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE POLICE. ALONG WITH THE PACKAGE.

THE FOOL! I WAS SO HOPING SHE'D STOP SCREWING UP WHEN SHE DUMPED THAT IDIOT GUNHAWK.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. MY BLOOD CALLS FOR THE HUNT. AND SO THE HUNT MUST BEGIN!

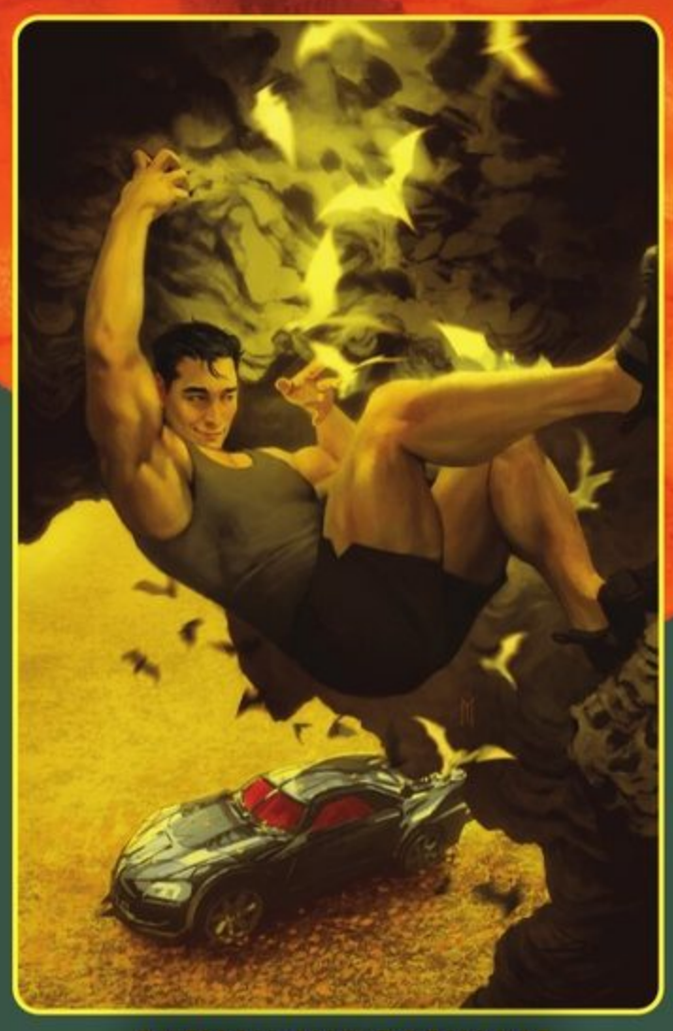
PREPARE MY KIT, ***WINFRED!*** I DESIRE HARLEY QUINN'S HEAD ON MY WALL, AND SO I SHALL HAVE IT!

SO DECLARES **BROCK BLOMQUIST, SUPER-HUNTER!**

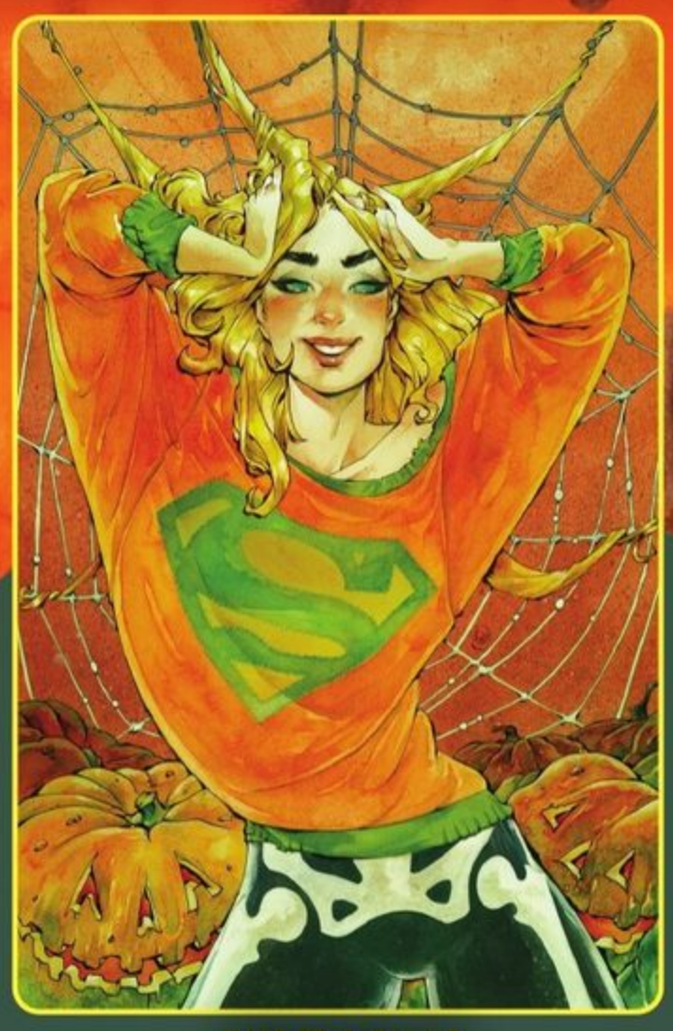
VERY GOOD, SIR.

NEXT: WOMEN IN PRISON! MEN WITH GUNS! TAPIRS NOT INCLUDED!

DC GETS PUMPKIN SPICY THIS FALL WITH STEAMY VARIANT COVERS!



BATMAN AND ROBIN #25
Cover by MIGUEL MERCADO



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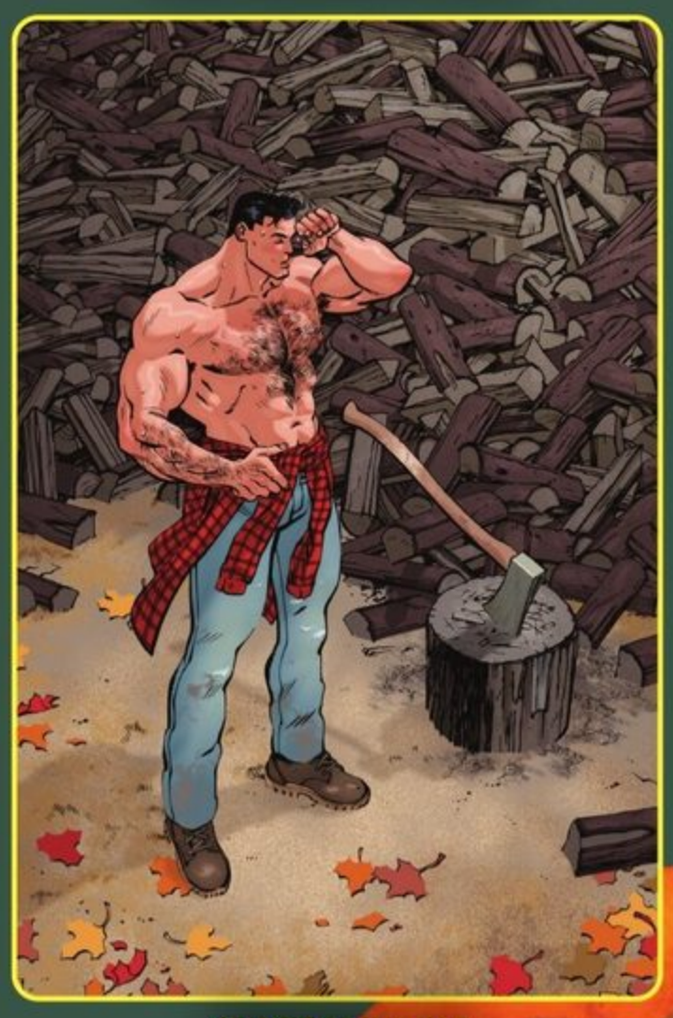

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HARLEY QUINN #55
Cover by FRANK CHO & SABINE RICH

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ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

A CONVERSATION WITH SCOTT SNYDER AND JOSHUA WILLIAMSON

In 2024, *Absolute Batman* writer Scott Snyder and *Superman* writer Joshua Williamson gave shape to DC's future in the fateful *DC All In Special* one-shot—the start of the All In era and the birth of the Absolute Universe. One year later, Snyder teams with artist Javi Fernández for *DC K.O.*, a massive, fight-filled, five-issue DC Universe event starting in October and running through March; with Williamson presiding over the tie-in series. To go deeper into *DC K.O.*, Snyder and Williamson got in the ring for a one-on-one conversation between the friends and frequent collaborators.

Scott Snyder: First, we just want to say thank you so much for the incredible year we've had at DC—thanks to fans, retailers, everybody out there that supported these books. The enthusiasm for what we've been doing has been very humbling and overwhelming to everybody at the company. We really couldn't be more grateful.

Our goal for *DC K.O.* is not only to pay that forward but to go even bigger. It's a knock-down, drag-out fight between all of your favorite heroes in a cosmic tournament to save the universe from Darkseid.

DC K.O. #1 variant cover
by Daniel Warren Johnson and Mike Spicer

Joshua Williamson: The artist joining us on *DC K.O.* is Javi Fernández. We've both been really big fans of Javi for a long time, so we're really excited for him to join us. We can't wait for you to see his pages.

Snyder: He is doing an incredible job and Javi, we're really sorry there are so many characters in this event!

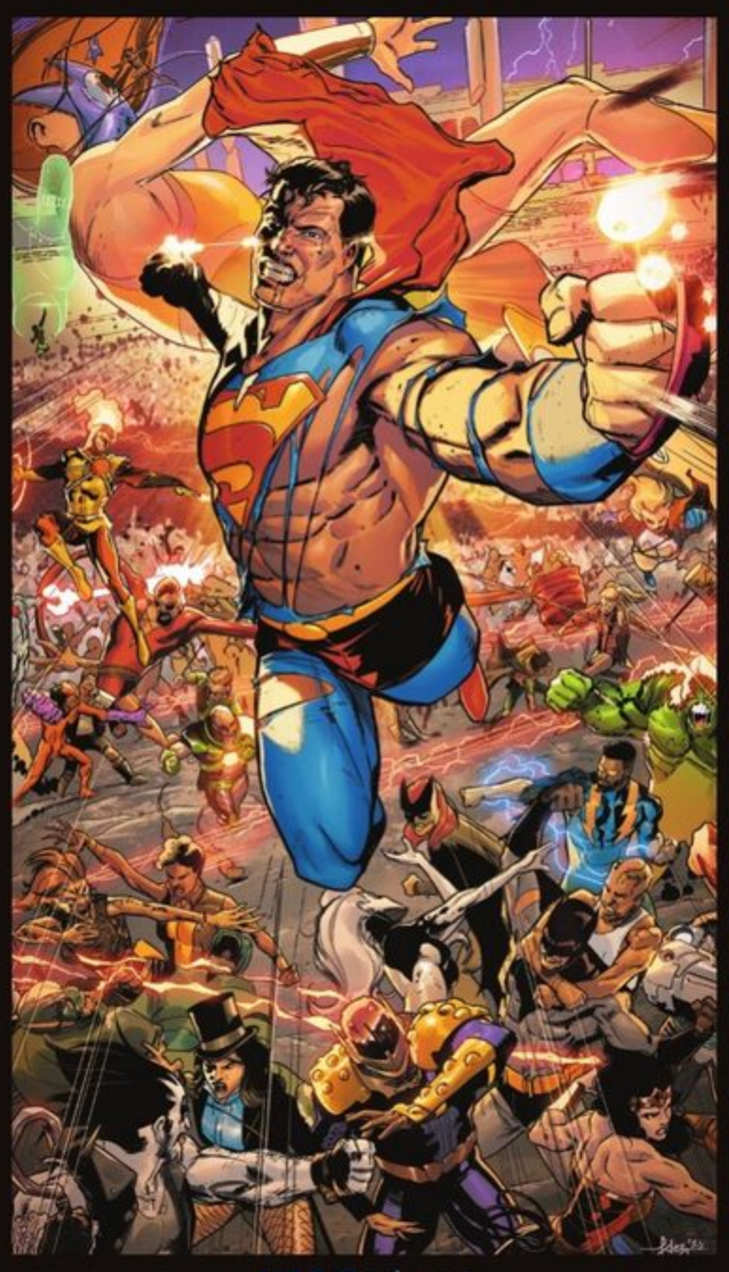
Wiliamson: We're trying not to kill you.

Snyder: But you're doing awesome! The book looks amazing.

When the story starts, the heroes learn that not only has Darkseid evolved into something bigger and stronger than he's ever been, but he's coming over from the Absolute Universe to the DC Universe, and there's no stopping him. He's moving backwards through time from the future to the present. With the birth of the Absolute Universe, he's absorbed so much Omega energy that he's become something beyond conception. He's become the King Omega—*K.O.*

Williamson: He's destroyed the future. There's no future for DC at this point because of what Darkseid has done.

Snyder: He's making his way back to the present and there's no way to stop him, but what the heroes learn is that the only way to confront this is to become what he is. How do you do that? They have to use this device called the Heart of Apokolips to change the Earth into an Apokoliptan tournament—an arena with five different levels going to the core.



DC K.O. #1 main cover
by Javi Fernández and Alejandro Sánchez

DON'T MISS *DC K.O.* #1, ON SALE OCTOBER!

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